

Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Central Office

Districts

Northwest

Northeast

Kansas City

Central

St. Louis

Southwest

Southeast

Archives

Print Page

Print
Entire Edition

Two Much Snow!

by Holly Dentner & Tammy Wallace

February went crazy for snow, with two major storms less than a week apart, covering roads statewide with snow and ice and causing a state of emergency declaration from the Governor's office. These were the biggest snow events employees faced this winter, but as usual, they did a fantastic job. Several key elements made these snow fights a success.

Planning

- The Emergency Operations Centers were fully-staffed across the state.
- Scheduled conference calls were held throughout the course of the storm with employees from all divisions at Central Office, every district, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and the State Emergency Management Agency.

Partnering

- The department worked closely throughout both storms with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the State Emergency Management Agency.
- Districts were able to help one another, crossing boundaries with personnel and equipment to target areas in most need.
- Contractors were used when available to help plow roads quickly and move accumulated snow from bridges, intersections, and roadway shoulders.

Communicating

- MoDOT issued a "no travel" advisory in advance of the second storm, warning that high winds and heavy snow would make travel dangerous.
- Through district and statewide emergency operations centers, lines of communication stayed open internally and externally throughout the entire snow fight.
- Communication with the public and media was frequent and informative – motorists could get road conditions, safe driving tips, and MoDOT's plowing priorities.
- New videos were posted to YouTube during the storms:
 - MoDOT TowPlows in Action,
 - Winter Driving Tips, and
 - A snow blower in Kansas City

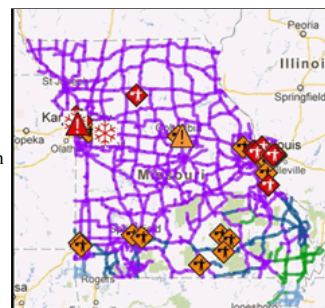


People

- Dedicated employees worked tirelessly to clear the roads as quickly as possible for safe travel and to keep our customers informed.
- Many crews were still moving the accumulated snow from the first storm as the second storm made its way across the state.

Some interesting tidbits show how customers are relying on MoDOT to help them make travel decisions during the storms:

- Customer Service Centers were staffed 24/7 and the representatives were doing their part assisting customers. There were 13,235 calls taken across the state during the two 24-hour storms.
- The MoDOT website plays a critical role during snow events. During the storms more than 175,000 customers viewed the Traveler Information Map for road conditions during a four-day period, and a news release advising "no travel" during the second storm was viewed more than 18,000 times during a 24-hour period. A Columbia television station posted the "no travel" advisory on their own website, generating over 33,000 views for that news page.
- Social media was very busy during the storms. On Facebook, a screen shot of an almost completely purple Traveler Information Map was shared 200 times, breaking a record for the most "shares" of MoDOT image. A gangplowing photo with "In Ice and Snow, Take it Slow" message and a description of why we gangplow was seen by 12,000 users.



MoDOT employees received this message from Commissioner Rudolph Farber after the storms:

Team MoDOT:

My fellow Commissioners and I thank you for the splendid job you did in snow removal for the two storms we just experienced. Without a doubt, your actions saved lives and reduced the adverse economic impact of the storms on our state.

Well done! And with a special thank you to Beth Wright and her team.

On behalf of the entire Commission,
Rudolph E. Farber
Chairman, Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission

Many "thank you" notes were posted on MoDOT's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Here's just a sample:



I just called the MoDOT number to check road conditions and see if I should drive to work an hour away. I was not expecting an actual person and must say she was EXTREMELY nice. For as busy as you all are tonight I am completely impressed.

Thanks for all the hard work yesterday (and most of the night, I'm sure). You got me home safe last night and the drive in to work this morning was "easy like Sunday morning".

These guys never get credit during winter weather. Thank you to the truck drivers who clear the roads!

I'm so thankful for MoDOT we all would be stranded if it wasn't for their hard work and dedication to our safety. Best DOT in the nation!

Made it to Joplin. Roads weren't bad at all, down here they are all dry. Way to go @MoDOT.

@MoDOT great job with the roads!! Thank you for what you guys do.

Bravo @MoDOT for clearing the roads!

My drive was no problem this morning on I-55S from #STL to Festus. Great job @MoDOT

Great job @MoDOT. Hwy 55 north looked fabulous. Thanks!

Roads are good. Thanks to the hardworking plow drivers who probably worked 12+ yesterday. @MoDOT StLouis@MoDOT

Planning for Missouri's Transportation Future

by Holly Dentner

Transportation planning partners from around the state gathered in Jefferson City on February 14 to discuss the future of transportation in Missouri.

After a welcome by Transportation Planning Director Machel Watkins, Chief Engineer Dave Nichols opened the meeting by giving an update on the department's long-range planning effort, "On the Move."

The primary focus of the meeting was to prepare planning partners for a future where a much larger transportation program could be a reality. That included regional breakout sessions where partners divided by district to discuss ideas and goals.

Additional topics during the day included the new statewide transportation improvement program and the project scoping process, multimodal transportation and a state rail plan update, performance management, local programs administration, a bridge division update, and some planning partner sessions lead by local agencies and regional planning organizations.



MoDOT Chief Engineer Dave Nichols updates the group on MoDOT's long range planning effort, "On the Move."

MoDOT holds the statewide planning partners meeting every year to assure that transportation planning efforts are inclusive and represent regional needs and priorities.

Missouri's Fuel Tax

by DeAnne Rickabaugh

When you buy a gallon of gas, you help pay for roads, bridges and other projects. Included in the price you pay per gallon of gasoline is 18.4 cents of federal tax and 17 cents specifically for Missouri. Per gallon, diesel fuel users pay 24.4 cents to the federal coffers and 17 cents to the Missouri fund.

This model worked well for many years, but vehicles became more fuel-efficient (a very welcome development!) and motorists cut their travel because of the cost of fuel. That means revenue from fuel taxes cannot keep up with the growing cost of MoDOT supplies.

Doing more than maintaining what we currently have requires a change to the current funding structure. MoDOT is spreading this word as it gathers information from customers through its Missouri On The Move long-range transportation plan. Check out the On The Move website, www.missourionthemove.org.

Cost Perspective			
	1992	2011	% Increase
Fuel Tax Revenues	\$368M	\$686M	86%
Concrete	\$51.30/yd ³	\$153.60/yd ³	199%
Asphalt	\$21.52/ton	\$59.31/ton	176%
Steel	\$450/metric ton	\$900/metric ton	100%

What's Happening



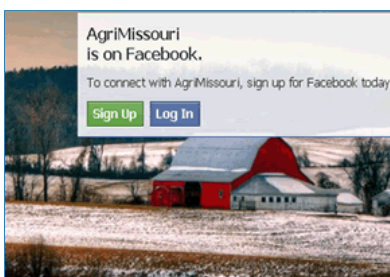
New Chair, Vice Chair for Commission

Earlier this week The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission changed leadership. Lloyd J. "Joe" Carmichael, Springfield, will now serve as the commission's chair for the next year, while Stephen R. "Steve" Miller, Kansas City, will assume the position of vice chair. Both men began serving on the commission in 2009.

The terms on the commission of previous chair Rudy Farber and vice chair Grace Nichols formally expire this month. They will continue to serve as commissioners until the Governor appoints replacements.

Carmichael is president and managing partner for the Springfield law firm of Carmichael & Neal, P.C. Miller is a partner of the Kansas City law firm, Miller Schirger, LLC.

Commission Chair Joe Carmichael (left) and Commission Vice Chair Steve Miller (right).



Get Social with the State

We'll feature interesting information and social media offerings of other state agencies in issues of Connections.

If you like plants, puppies or popcorn, you might enjoy the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Facebook page. MDA shares stories and photos that appeal to farmers, livestock producers, pet owners, gardeners and anyone who likes to eat. www.facebook.com/MOAgiculture

Another MDA page, www.facebook.com/AgriMissouri highlights the food, farm products and agritourism destinations our fellow Missourians offer. Great site for those who like to buy local...and you might be surprised at what's being grown on that farm down the road.



MoDOT Employees Give Back to Communities Department the Top Contributor in Charitable Campaign Again

MoDOT employees once again showed they care for others in a generous way by contributing the most money of all state agencies to the annual Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign. This is the sixth consecutive year that MoDOT employees contributed the most money to the campaign, \$164,551.

Overall, state employees raised a total of \$1,050,000 for local, state and national non-profit organizations during the campaign, now in its 28th year.



Accolades for MoDOT Photographer

Cathy Morrison, senior multimedia specialist, has once again been recognized for her photography skills. Safety & Health Magazine chose one of Cathy's photos as the cover for the magazine, which is a publication of the National Safety Council.

Cathy shot the photo of Lawrence Richmond, a senior materials technician in the St. Louis District (now retired) for use in the district's WorkLifeCenter. Congratulations Cathy for having your work recognized once again.

March Service Anniversaries

30 Years

William Burton Sales - KC
William L. Sentman - CD
Theodore Elmer Fox - SL
Danielle L. Nester - SL
Bill Joseph Schnell - SL
Donald W. Edgar - SE
Joseph W. Schroer - CO
Stephen D. Johnson - CO

25 Years

Carla June Howard - NE
John Kramer Elliott - KC
Randall Ralph Fenton - CD
Joseph C. Rickman - SW
Gary W. Shisler - SW
Larry Kent Wischmeier - SW
Jacqueline L. Biele - CO
S. Teresa Hall - CO

15 Years

Egan Dale Carter - NW
Robert A. Willis - NW
Danny Lee Everts - KC
Lavonda Charmaine Hughlon - KC
Diana Lynn Dinwiddie - CD
Roger A. Brader - SL
David Paul Backus - SW
Robert L. Broecker - CO
Pamela O. Parker - CO

10 Years

Ronald D. Anderson - NW
Blake R. Nauman - NW
Phyllis Jean Edelman - KC
Susan Jane Nelson - KC
Rodney W. Hauser - CD
Donald A. Maddox - CD
Samuel E. Schafer - SL

5 Years

Derek A. Cooley - NE
Gayle Eugene Leake - NE
Christopher J. Divine - KC
Timothy P. Schroeder - KC
Tina M. Jenkins - CD
Alan Glen Heathman - SL
William Anthony Lewis - SL
Patrick E. Whitehead - SL
Richard C. Morgan - SW
John Michael Roberts - SW
Charles Eugene Toler - SW
Serita Jean Clark - SE
Elizabeth M. Oliver - CO
Janemargaret P. Akwaowo - CO
Kenneth E. Barnes - CO
Anita R. Buddemeyer - CO
Amity R. Jeffries - CO

20 Years

Travis A. Mace - SW
Keith W. Elliott - SE
John E. Fort - SE
Debra Leona Bradshaw - CO
Kelly F. Ray - CO
Bethany A. Patten - CO

David M. Ziegler - SL
William A. Stranghoner - SW
Jeffery M. Anderson - SE
Christina L. Wilkerson - CO
Karen S. Miller - CO
Catherine Ann Scribner - CO
Jeannemarie Lebeau - CO

Connections

The mission of Connections is to be a source of Missouri Department of Transportation news and feature articles that connect employees statewide.

Customer Relations - MoDOT
P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102
573.751.2840 / www.modot.org

Editor: Tammy Wallace

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Central
Office

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

[Districts](#)

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

And The Winners Are...

Central Office had great participation in the Innovation PrOMo Challenge, with 34 submittals from several different business areas. Llans Taylor, innovations engineer, said with so many great entries, it was very difficult for the evaluation team (made up of coordinators from 11 of the division offices) to select only six winners.

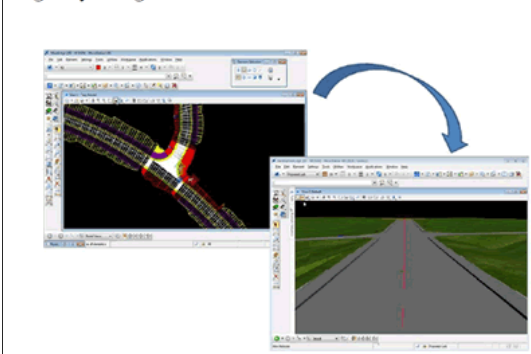
The six winners will now compete with the district winners for an opportunity to participate in the Innovations Showcase being held in conjunction with SPDAM and SOMM.

"Since this was the first year for Innovations PrOMo, we know that it was not perfect and we have recognized several areas for improvement in the implementation, administration and program guidelines," said Taylor. "With these future changes we hope to make this program even better and to provide greater opportunity for all of the terrific innovations and solutions to be recognized. We have incredible staff statewide and the main purpose of this program is to identify and share the innovative ways they make MoDOT better."

Central Office Innovation PrOMo Challenge Winners:

- **Bridge Division Entry** - BridgeKey: Implementing a new load rating software for superload analysis to provide more accurate and quicker analysis with less staff, enabling improved responsiveness to an increasing number of permit requests and freeing up resources for other tasks. Participants - David Koenig, Chad Daniel, Aaron Kemna, Jamey Laughlin, Laura Voss, Kevin Jaegers, Rhonda Luck, Marty Brose, Richard Gabelsberger, and John Gahaga
- **Design Division Entry** - 3-D Based Roadway Design: Developing and implementing three dimensional roadway design plans. Participants - Kevin Vollet, Bill Politte, Chad Green, Brad McCloud, Travis Tomson, and Alexa Mitchell
- **Design Division Entry** - E-Book Specifications: Developing and implementing a fully functional E-Book version of MoDOT's Standard Specifications and establishing the process for incorporating other MoDOT publications in this format. Participants - Joe Jones, Sam Niederhelm, and George Kopp
- **Maintenance Division Entry** (with assistance from SE District) - Sharepoint Equipment Reservation Tool: Creating a reservation tool to coordinate and schedule shared use equipment around the state. Participants - Jerry Goodman, Mike Shea, Cheri Middendorf, and Shelly Cooper
- **Transportation Planning Entry** - Optimized Work Week: Developing and implementing a work schedule for special crews to better accomplish the work in the most efficient time frame available. Participants - Steve Clark, Chris Evers, Curt Evers, Greg Evers, Troy Flickinger, Joe Horan, Shawn McKee and Steve Sanning
- **Construction Division and Traffic Division Entry** - Extended LED Signal Replacement Schedule: Using research and investigation to extend the replacement cycle of LED signals to ensure safe operation in the most cost effective manner available. Participants - Jen Harper and Julie Stotlemeyer

Highway Design Based on a 3-Dimensional Virtual Model



Design Division Entry - 3-D Based Roadway Design

Big Losers - It's a Good Thing!

Congratulations to Drew Williford, intermediate transportation planner, and Jay Whaley, transportation management system administrator, on being the most recent winners of the Biggest Loser Contest.

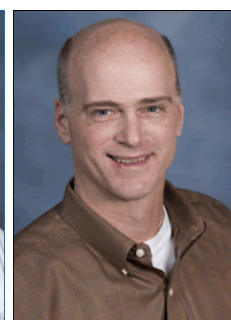
Drew placed first with a total percentage of weight lost at 18.29%. Jay came in close behind with a total percentage of weight lost at 17.62%.

Drew and Jay will split the earnings equally with Jay donating his portion to the Polar Plunge fundraising efforts.

This winter edition of the contest had 26 employee participants who lost a total of 250 pounds overall. Everyone did a great job on the 12-week journey. Congratulations!



Intermediate Transportation Planner Drew Williford



Transportation Management System Administrator Jay Whaley

What's Happening at Central Office



A Conversation on Black History

a Lunch and Learn event presented by the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Division

Monday, March 11 - 11a.m. to 12p.m.
601 West Main - HR conference room.

Speakers: Jefferson City NAACP President Mr. Rod Chapel Jr. and Vice President Mr. Rod Chapel Sr.

The Chapels experienced the Civil Rights Movement at different points in their lives and will talk about the experience and the effect it had on both of them.

To attend, register through the [Student Center](#) and search the course catalogue for 2013 Black History Luncheon (*this link will work for employees only*). Space is limited so please register early and don't forget to bring your lunch.

For questions contact Ida Mitchell
Senior Human Resources Specialist
Ida.Mitchell@modot.mo.gov - 573-751-2675



Spinal Rejuvenation Therapy

Tuesday, March 12 - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
601 West Main - Training Room B

Speaker: Dr. Brent Berlemer, founder Discover Wellness and Rehabilitation

Dr. Berlemer will discuss the latest non-surgical technology to eliminate many forms of pain.

To attend, register through the [Student Center](#) (*this link will work for employees only*).

For questions contact Ashley Woods
Employee Development Specialist - MEEZone Coordinator
Ashley.Woods@modot.mo.gov - 573-751-3941

Connections

The mission of Connections is to be a source of Missouri Department of Transportation news and feature articles that connect employees statewide.

Customer Relations - MoDOT
P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102
573.751.2840 / www.modot.org

Editor: Tammy Wallace

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Northwest District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print Entire Edition](#)



Super Heroes in the Snow

Northwest Missouri has seen its fair share of snow in the month of February. The snow almost seemed continuous from Feb. 21 to Feb. 28! Crews and equipment were shifted as needed, sometimes even out of our district, to ensure we could respond at our best to the record snowfall. But the Northwest District knew how to handle it, and we handled it very, very well. One truck driver sent in a message: Super heroes don't wear capes...they drive MODOT TRUCKS!

We couldn't agree more!

Our crews have received kudos from many different people on how well we responded to these back-to-back major snow fights. Our social media response has been incredibly positive with 'thank you' and 'be safe' messages flooding our Facebook page. While we know we have some of the best crews, it's nice that others recognize that, as well.

The Northwest District would also like to send special thanks to the Southeast District employees who came to help us. We really appreciate the One Team attitude.

Kudos also go to our traveling public! By listening to the media and MoDOT's travel advisories, many staid off the roadways, making clearing routes much easier. For the most part, NW District crews faced mostly traffic-less roadways.



The traffic our road crews work around comes in all shapes and sizes.

Many field personnel sent in photos and videos that we were able to share with our Facebook and Twitter followers and they shared them, commented on them and 'liked' them all. A big thanks to those who took the time out of an already busy event to send in photos and videos. More storm photos can be found on our Flickr site at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/52168572%40N05/>.

All around, it was incredible effort by an incredible team and now we all deserve a nap!



Taken Feb. 21 before 9 a.m. on I-29, this photo clearly shows the white out and blowing snow facing snow plow drivers and any motorists that ventured out.

Another big thanks goes to the NW EOC staff and the departments in which those staff normally work. Additional people were called in to staff the EOC and Customer Service, and new folks volunteered for EOC duty. Other work was set aside as staff was pulled to respond to the emergency situation.

The public appreciates being able to speak to a live person 24 hours a day, seven days a week and often express their surprise when they hear a live person instead of a recording on the phone. And because they know we are here, they called. And called. And called.

For example, on Thursday, Feb. 21, our district staff alone handled 1,098 calls that day, of which, more than 83 percent were calls for other areas, referred to as bucket calls. Not only did we handle the highest percentage of bucket calls, we actually handled more calls. Northwest District took 917 bucket calls in a 24-hour period.

District Innovations PrOMo Challenge Winners Selected

The Northwest District will be well represented at the 2013 Innovations Showcase to be held in Springfield on April 10. Not only will the sign setter tools developed by our Brookfield Maintenance team (featured in last month's Northwest News) be competing at the Showcase as winners of the Tool & Equipment Challenge, but three additional teams will join them as district winners for the Innovations PrOMo Challenge.

The 2012-2013 Innovations PrOMo Challenge is open to all full-time employees. The district competitions ran from Dec. 1, 2012 through Jan. 31, 2013, and included entries in several categories: Product Improvement, Project Improvement, Process Improvement and the Wild Card category. Each district winner receives \$75 per person or a maximum of \$450 per team.

Innovations were judged on efficiency, value (cost & quality), organizational impact, safety and environmental. Each district could select up to six submissions and a statewide evaluation team chose the best innovations to compete at the Innovations Showcase.

Congratulations to all our district winners and good luck as you move on to the state competition. We know you'll represent the Northwest District well!

Sign Height Measuring Tool

Scott Hollon and Donnie Troester
Milan Maintenance



PVC pipe of the proper height for sign placement is used in conjunction with a laser level to pinpoint the exact sign height on a sign post. A sign can be checked quickly to ensure it is at the correct height to improve uniformity.



Non-Stick Spray Prep/Cleaning Method

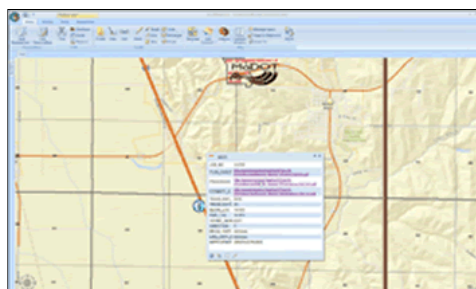
Angie Ellis
Bethany Maintenance



That's right. Pam cooking spray. A simple solution to what was once a problem of cleaning equipment and tools used when operating the Crafcro machine. By pre-treating tools and equipment with any non-stick cooking spray, the Crafcro oil does not stick to them and clean up is much easier and faster. It also prolongs the life of the tools, as the oil simply peels off.

Interactive Map

Jeff Burns and Mike Mooney
Design



Developed in Arc GIS Explorer, the map allows users to access contract archives, plans, estimates, hydraulic studies, etc. directly from the map. It also links to resources such as photographic archives, USGS mapping and historical survey data. The map takes advantage of the extensive TMS infrastructure MoDOT already has established with no further software investment or development.

Looking Below The Surface

An annual bridge inspection in February prompted MoDOT to lower the weight limit on the Stanley Lake Bridge across the Grand River on Chariton County Route 139 from 30 tons to 10 tons and a bridge replacement has now been scheduled for the 2014 construction season. To start the process, a team from Jefferson City recently did subsurface investigations at the bridge site. The investigations required work on the bridge deck, so a closure was necessary. Several options were explored, including closing the bridge completely for several days to expedite the work. The next closest state route to cross the Grand River would have meant a detour of more than 50 miles, so the decision was made to open the bridge each night to allow farmers and local residents to use the bridge.



The team had to drill through the bridge deck down into the frozen lake to conduct their investigations.



A view of the drill casing from the underside of the Stanley Lake Bridge.

For more info

Melissa Black
Customer Relations Manager
Northwest District
816.387.2481
Melissa.Black@modot.mo.gov

3602 N. Belt Highway
St. Joseph, MO 64506-1399

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Northeast
District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Thank You, Mr. MoDOT!

With more than a dozen inches of snow falling over Northeast Missouri within the last week, several resources were used to ensure that the highways became passable for motorists.

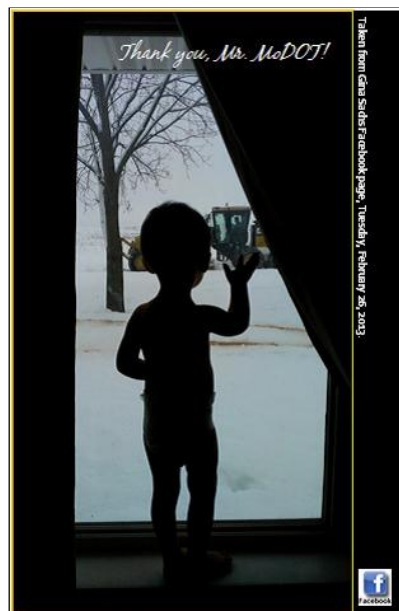
"Every one of our employees stepped up to the One Team mission," said NE District Engineer Paula Gough. "And not just NE District employees," she added. She's referencing the help from the St. Louis and Southeast Districts and contractors. "This was an intense, coordinated effort, and I'm extremely proud of the way everyone came together to provide what I believe is truly outstanding customer service," she said.

Although the magnitude of last week's storms won't be known for a few more weeks, below are some facts about the Northeast District's snow removal operations for February 21 and February 22:

- Approximately 8700 hours were recorded for all employees covering winter operations in those two days.
- 227 pieces of MoDOT equipment and 12 contracted pieces of equipment covered nearly 90,000 miles.
- Approximately 40,000 gallons of fuel were used within those two days.
- More than 1000 calls were personally answered by MoDOT staff in the customer service center on Thursday and Friday.

With another storm hitting the district the following week, it seemed as if no break was in sight. Employees continued to work hard to ensure the traveling public would make it to their destinations safely.

"You just can't put a price on the time sacrificed away from family, and the commitment the employees have shown to the citizens of Missouri," Gough said. Several comments of appreciation were received in our social media, email, phone calls, and even local media.



This picture was posted by Gina Sachs on the MoDOT Northeast District Facebook page on February 26. It really portrays the appreciation people have for the hard work and sacrifice our employees make during a winter storm event.

Everyone...JUST DRIVE! Conference A Success

More than 40 people representing a diverse audience attended the Everyone...JUST DRIVE! conference in Hannibal sponsored by the NE Coalition for Roadway Safety. Dr. Leanna DePue, highway safety director, shared information about how the statewide Coalition has reduced fatalities in Missouri over the last seven years, and she unveiled the new goal of 700 or fewer fatalities by 2016...moving towards Zero. A variety of topics were shared including an introduction to the Safe & Sober program for high school students, new safety features on cars, and an update on planning for the next year in the NE Coalition. Two of the three high schools in attendance presented how they are encouraging students to practice safe driving by participating in the Battle of the Belt program. After lunch, participants were divided into five groups to work on planning ideas within the five "E's" (Engineer, Education, Enforcement, EMS, and Everyone). All photos and captions are posted on the NE District Facebook page.



Crystal Lain (right) listens to Kayle Denny with ThinkFirst Missouri tell about her car wreck that killed her friend and left her paralyzed, and both were unbuckled. Crystal lost her sister, Danni Nicole, in a car accident where Danni was not buckled in. Kayle and Crystal were two of many speakers at the NE Coalition for Roadway Safety conference held this week in Hannibal.



Steve Dickson, a professional and registered land surveyor with MoDOT's NE District, told how he and co-worker Holly Thronson survived a head-on collision because they were wearing seat belts.

Crowd Turns Out for Resurfacing Meeting



Erik Maninga, south area engineer for the NE District, visits with some of the attendees at the Route U public meeting earlier this week.

With nearly 5000 cars a day, Route U in Lincoln County is a connector between Route 47 and US 61. "Several subdivisions and homes have been built in the last decade, which has led to the current traffic volume," said Project Manager Chris Knapp. He said the road has several curves and is narrow with little or no shoulder in places. In 2014, MoDOT will resurface just over four miles and add paved shoulders along the way.

The project, which involves resurfacing and paving shoulders, drew interest from nearly 50 people, by traditional and virtual means. "We really didn't know what to expect, since this isn't a major project, yet we were pleased with the turn out," Knapp said. Response from comments are overall favorable. The \$2 million project will be awarded in the summer of 2014.

For more info

Marisa Brown-Ellison
Customer Relations Manager
Northeast District
573.248.2502
Marisa.Ellison@modot.mo.gov

1711 S. Highway 61
Hannibal, MO 63401

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Kansas City
District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Winter Storms Ravage the District

One Team Effort Results in Positive Feedback from Customers

by Kerri Lewis

Two major storms coupled with high winds and more than two feet of snow put our crews to the test. The results are in and MoDOT has passed with flying colors. Challenges that faced our crews included cleanup after a storm dumped close to a foot of snow on Thursday, Feb. 21. Adding insult to injury, preparations continued for another massive assault on Tuesday, Feb. 26 that resulted in another foot of snow in many areas across the KC District. These storms created unsafe conditions for motorists and MoDOT crews alike, but even with the obstacles, crews continued to clear the way, working 12-hour shifts to make roads safe.

The snow fight was a combined effort from all areas of MoDOT. Equipment and crews from our neighboring districts provided additional power to combat Mother Nature. Add to that, the use of massive snow blowers that helped clear the way for the next round of snow Tuesday. But the fight was not only on the roads. Customer service representatives, volunteers working the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and KC Scout representatives worked 12-hour shifts behind the scenes helping monitor roads and keep crews moving while helping motorists find the safest way to their destinations.

"Despite the challenges and the hazards that these recent storms presented, the district performed exceptionally well. I couldn't be more proud of the team work exhibited by our road crews, partners and those working behind the scenes to ensure the safety of our traveling public. Long hours and fatigue faced our crews, yet you continued to persevere. Your results are greatly appreciated by myself and most importantly, noticed and appreciated by customers throughout the Kansas City region. Your efforts made the KC District shine once again. Thank you for all you do," said District Engineer Dan Niec.

In an effort to assist crews with snow removal after the initial storm, MoDOT partnered with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Kansas City Police Department to find the best solution for removing stalled and abandoned vehicles from the roads. Removal of these vehicles was essential in clearing the highways from the large amount of snow, for the safety of motorists, and to minimize property damage. Approximately 70 abandoned vehicles were towed from Kansas City area state routes by professional tow companies.



Customers appreciated all the hard work during the recent storms. One customer summed it up in two words! Photo: Chris Redline

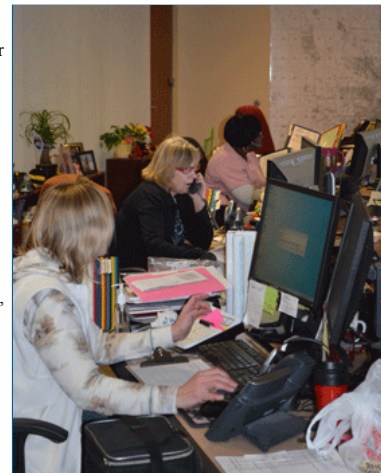
"It was critical for the safety of the traveling public and our crews that we get them moved out of the way quickly so we could continue to clear our major routes throughout the night," said MoDOT Assistant District Engineer Chris Redline. "It would have been impossible to open certain roads by last Friday morning's rush hour without first clearing the abandoned vehicles."

The combined efforts from the crews on the roads to those working behind the scenes were noticed by all. In fact, media coverage spoke highly of MoDOT's efforts in some very positive reports, giving praise to a job well done. Fox News did a live national newscast from the Nashua Maintenance Facility as snow began to fall on Monday night. All four of Kansas City's local news stations continued the trend with coverage of the massive storms hitting the region, and MoDOT serving as the local expert regarding preparations and road conditions as each storm moved through. Check out some of these story highlights that showcase efforts across the district.

- [KMBC Channel 9](#)
- [KCTV 5 Highlights Motorist Assist](#)
- [KCTV 5 Dangerous Even for Plows](#)
- [Fox 4 MoDOT Braces for Another Storm](#)
- [Fox 4 MoDOT Tows Cars](#)

In addition, MoDOT utilized social media tools to keep motorists and communities well-informed about the road conditions and obstacles faced on the roadways.

YouTube, Facebook and Twitter proved successful for the most up-to-date information. In fact, the KC District's Twitter account grew by more than 150 followers over the course of both storms as more and more customers relied on this hand held tool to stay in the know.



Statewide, MoDOT customer service took a combined total of 13,235 calls for the Feb. 21 and 26 storms. KC District customer service representatives worked around the clock in rotating 12-hour shifts to support the Feb. 26 snow fight efforts, taking 1,094 calls; across the state, MoDOT customer service took 4,782 total calls. MoDOT was able to answer nearly 98 percent of the calls that came into the customer service centers, as five of the seven districts had staff on hand for the entire 24-hour period.

Pictured from left to right are Michelle Clevenger, Debi Foster, and Louise Carroll. Not pictured but also a part of the team during the winter storms were Jeff Still, Donna Madison, Nettie Golston, Lashawna Judon, Vyrla England, Betty Schloman, Sherita White, Kim Gordon, Hope Visconti and Rick Wyrick. Photo: Steve Porter

It was definitely a One Team effort that helped keep our roads safe. With the help of everyone involved during the recent snow events, our customers were happy and highly appreciative of the efforts put forth by each and every one.

“You are doing a great job coordinating these significant events. You have implemented teams with reasonable span of control, provided resources and empowered them to make good decisions. You have remained calm, developed a plan, implemented it and provided flexibility to resolve issues at the place closest to the problem. This has taken a team of MoDOT, contractor and law enforcement partners. Well done,” said State Maintenance Engineer Beth Wright.

Mo. Highways and Transportation Commissioner Stephen Miller also said, “Thanks so much. Great work! Please pass on my congratulations and thanks to everyone.”

[Click here](#) to visit [kcConnections](#) KC Kudos page to read some of the nice words our customers had to say regarding the hard work.

Check out our Snow Blowing Efforts used to combat all the snow!



KC District Receives Accolades for Great Projects

by Kerri Lewis

Some projects completed in 2012 have received accolades in the form of prestigious awards. Great engineering and construction made these KC projects shine.

The I-70 and I-435 interchange project has received two separate awards. It won the Kansas City Business Journal's Capstone Award in the infrastructure category. In addition, it also received the American Public Works Association's (APWA) award for Transportation \$25 to \$75 million. This \$39 million, two-year project eliminated the biggest choke point in the Kansas City area by adding a third lane of I-70 in each direction, replacing the Blue Ridge Cutoff bridge over I-70 and the Route 40 bridge over I-435, added a new collector ramp system for I-435 to eastbound I-70 and a half-diamond interchange at I-435 and Route 40 to and from the north.

The Tiffany Springs Parkway Improvement project in Clay County won the Missouri/Kansas Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association's (ACPA) Award for the Municipal Streets and Intersections (>30,000 SY) category. Completed by MoDOT, the City of Kansas City and contractor Ideker, Inc., this project was recognized in February as the best Portland cement concrete (PCC) pavement constructed in this category in 2012 for the state of Missouri. This project replaced an at-grade, signalized intersection with a fully functional diamond interchange at Route 169 and 96th Street/ Tiffany Springs Parkway; and widened arterial roadways in the project area to improve traffic safety, provide better access, and accommodate economic development.

The Route 169 (Broadway Extension) reconstruction project in downtown Kansas City won the Missouri/Kansas Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association's



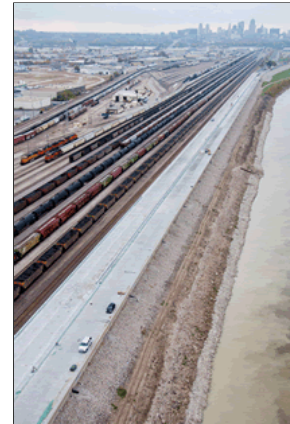
The I-70 and I-435 Interchange Project received two awards. This \$39 million project eliminated a huge choke point in the Kansas City area. Photo: Steve Porter



The Route 169 Interchange project, also known as the Tiffany Springs Parkway Improvement Project has enhanced safety and accommodates economic development in this region of the Northland. Photo: Kerri Lewis

(ACPA) Award for Urban Arterials and Collectors. This project replaced deteriorated sections of a wall that supports Route 169's northbound lanes; fixed bridges that support the southbound lanes; repaired guard rail and barrier; and replaced drainage between the northbound and southbound lanes, which has resolved the highway's problems for the long term. All this work was completed within a very tight area, between the Missouri River and an active railroad yard.

Route 169 (Broadway Extension) was a unique project, tucked in between an active railroad yard and the Missouri River. This project was completed 6 weeks early, reopening to traffic in October 2012. Photo: Cathy Morrison



For more info

Jennifer Benefield
Customer Relations Manager
Kansas City District
816.607.2153
Jennifer.Benefield@modot.mo.gov

600 NE Colbern Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Central
District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Awesome Job!

Crews Battle Back-to-Back Snow Storms

As if one major winter storm wasn't bad enough, the Central District, like most of the state, experienced a double whammy when a second storm came through just days later.

The first storm, which hit Feb. 21, put crews to the test by dumping a lot of snow – definitely more than was forecast – in a short amount of time. Just when things were about to get back to normal, the second storm battered the state on Feb. 26. And just about the time things started to settle down after that bout of winter weather, high winds caused crews to take to the streets again to battle blowing snow.



Central District maintenance crews use a towplow to clear Interstate 70 near Columbia.

"Our staff did an outstanding job clearing roads and responding to customer concerns during these winter weather events," said Central District Engineer Dave Silvester. "It takes all of our staff working together to ensure we provide outstanding service to our customers."

The Central District definitely tackled the storms as one team, sending resources to other districts when we could and accepting help when needed from those areas not as greatly affected. It was all hands on deck in the Emergency Operations Center, which was activated around the clock for almost a full week, give or take a few days. EOC staff logged more than 1,700 calls on Feb. 21 and Feb. 26 alone.

While we naturally received some complaints from customers, we also received a great deal of positive feedback from the public. Here's a sampling:

"Great job, MoDOT! I was expecting the drive in this morning to be slow and the roads to be partially covered. Not only was Highway T, a minor road, in great shape but Highways 63 and 50 were completely clear in both lanes, and I was completely impressed!"

"A big hand of thanks to those MoDOT folks who worked thought the nights to keep our roads clear and safe."

"Thanks for the awesome job you're doing with this awful weather."

From quickly putting mailboxes back up to clearing the driveway of an elderly woman with medical issues, our crews went above and beyond to do what they do best – serve our customers.

I-70, I-44 Named Purple Heart Trail

Highway signs will soon be going up along Interstates 70 and 44 designating the routes as the Purple Heart Trail in Missouri.

A ceremony unveiling one of 16 memorial highway signs to be erected along the length of the two interstates was held March 6 at the State Capitol.

The Purple Heart Trail is a symbolic and honorary system of roads, highways, bridges, and other monuments that pay tribute to the men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal.

The Missouri General Assembly passed Senate Bill 480 in the last session designating the two Missouri interstates as the Purple Heart Trail. The legislative sponsors were former Rep. Charlie Denison, Springfield, and former Rep. Jerry Nolte, Gladstone.

"It's my hope that the people who travel through the state of Missouri will recognize that we want to honor our veterans," Denison said.

Carl Dietrich, a retired U.S. Navy electrician from Springfield and a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, had the idea of bringing the Purple Heart Trail to Missouri. He approached then-Rep. Denison with the proposal, and Denison agreed to sponsor the required legislation. In addition, Dietrich set up a planning committee to garner support for the initiative and raise the funds needed to pay for the signs.



Members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart pose with one of the 16 Purple Heart Trail signs that will be erected along Interstates 70 and 40.

"I am pleased with the support we received to honor those wounded or killed while serving their country," Dietrich said. Added MoDOT Assistant Chief Engineer Don Hillis, "I believe what we are going to see with these highway signs is a continual reminder of the sacrifice that people have made so we can maintain our freedom in this country."

When all of the signs are erected, Missouri will join 45 other states, along with Guam, to honor Purple Heart Medal recipients. A map showing the Purple Heart Trail sign locations can be found on our website at www.modot.org.

The Purple Heart Trail was established in 1992 by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The trail originates at a monument in Mount Vernon, Va., George Washington's burial place.

Road Trip!



The Central District played host to legislators and industry partners for the Missouri Transportation Construction Coalition's annual Infrastructure Needs Tour held March 4.

While the tour took place in central Missouri, legislators learned about project needs throughout the state via the tour guides' commentary and a booklet outlining examples of statewide project needs.

"We impressed upon them that the infrastructure we were showing them, such as major bridges and minor roads, was merely an example of the needs around the state," said Assistant District Engineer Travis Koestner, one of the tour guides.

"The tour was excellent, and the feedback I got from the legislators was also good," said Senior Governmental Relations Specialist Lisa LeMaster.

About 40 people took part in the 45-mile tour between Jefferson City and Columbia.

For more info

Sally Oxenhandler
Customer Relations Manager
Central District
573-522-3375
Sally.Oxenhandler@modot.mo.gov

1511 Missouri Boulevard
P.O. Box 718
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

[Districts](#)

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

St. Louis
District

Kudos to St. Louis Snow Fighters

by Kara Price

"Thank you to all the MoDOT St. Louis snow fighters for doing a great job in responding proactively to the multiple rounds of winter weather over the past few weeks. I saw some really great teamwork to tackle these storms. Everyone did their part to beat back mother nature. Long hours in the trucks, mechanics kept things running, Customer Service answered record numbers of calls, Motorist Assist helped hundreds of motorists, volunteers took on tasks so others could be on the road. What a team effort. One of the things that shows how committed you all are, is that I have heard many of you talking about what we learned this time and how we can get even better for the next one. Thank you Team MoDOT for all your hard work and dedicated efforts!" - Ed Hassinger, St. Louis District Engineer



Snowblower to blow snow off shoulder on eastbound Route 364 at Veterans' Memorial Bridge.



Pam Meador, St. Charles maintenance crew leader, and Kenneth Suelthaus, Missouri Highways and Transportation Commissioner.



St. Louis hosted a press conference the day before the major snow and ice storm to warn motorists to avoid traveling during the height of the storm for their safety. Becky Allmeroth, St. Louis District Maintenance Engineer, discussed MoDOT's proactive response to the upcoming storm.

2013 Equal Employment Opportunity Workshop a Success

by Shirlyn Myles

St. Louis recently hosted the annual Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Contract Compliance Workshop at the Hilton St. Louis Ballpark Hotel. Facilitated by the Civil Rights department, the two day event consisted of compliance training, group discussions and information sharing sessions. New to this year's event were the One-on-One sessions between prime contractors and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE).

As in the past, the workshop provided forums and panel sessions that addressed contractor compliance issues, DBE certification, bidding, best practices, fraud and abuse issues, On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program, Title VI, ADA, as well as an overview of the regulations for the DBE Program.

New workshops added to the training sessions for the 2013 year were, the Mentor/Protégé Program, Prevailing Wages Rates, and USDOT's Small Business and Lending Programs. ECR Director Lester Woods also reported MoDOT's Disparity Study results to the business community.

"This year's workshop had the largest attendance since we first started this," said Rose Lucas, Senior External Civil Rights Specialist.

During the workshop, MoDOT awarded the following contractors, subcontractors and DBEs with a plaque in recognition of their success with MoDOT.

- **Contractor of the Year:** Fred Weber, Inc.
- **Sub-contractor of the Year:** D & S Fencing Company, Inc.
- **Consultant of the Year:** Crawford, Murphy & Tilly
- **Sub-consultant of the Year:** David Mason & Associates
- **Mentor Protégé Award:** Mentor: Intuition & Logic / Protégé: Sabur Surveying, Inc.
- **Successful DBE's of the Year:**
 - Philips & Associates, Inc.
 - Taliaferro & Brown, Inc.
 - TapanAM Associates, Inc.
- **Best Partnership Effort:**
 - John Nations, President & CEO - Metro St. Louis
 - Elke Campbell, Supplier Diversity Program Manager - Metro St. Louis
 - Harry Moppins, Jr., Assistant Director of Community Programs/DBE Program - Lambert St. Louis International Airport
 - Jackie Taylor, Program Manager - DBE Program Office - Lambert St. Louis International Airport

Next year's workshop will be held in Columbia, Missouri.



DBE Program receives the Best Partnership Effort Award. Pictured left to right: Ed Hassinger, MoDOT St. Louis District Engineer, Harry Moppins, Assistant Director of Community Programs and DBE Program - Lambert St. Louis International Airport, Lester Woods, External Civil Rights Director, and Don Hillis, Assistant Chief Engineer.

Blanchette Getting Pieced Back Together

by Linda Wilson Horn
Photo by Niall Jansson



In February, steel installation began on the \$64 million rehabilitation of the westbound I-70 Blanchette Missouri River Bridge at St. Charles. Crews are rebuilding the steel truss piece by piece.

Completion is expected by Fall 2013.

Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Southwest
District

Home

Central Office

Districts

Northwest

Northeast

Kansas City

Central

St. Louis

Southwest

Southeast

Archives

Print Page

Print
Entire Edition



RUNNING A TOW PLOW: Checking his right-side rear view mirror while plowing snow on I-44 through Springfield during a late February storm is Springfield Maintenance Crew Leader Ben Arnall. (Photo by Bob Edwards)



HELPING SET PRIORITIES: Among local leaders participating in discussions during the "On the Move" Joplin Listening Session on March 5 are, from left around table, Mark Timpe of Con-Way Truckload, Jim Cummins of Crowder College, Tom Short of the city of Carthage, Gib Garrow of the Neosho Chamber of Commerce, Brandy Barker of Fleishman-Hillard and Alan Cook of the Newton County Commission. (Photo by Bob Edwards)

Safe, Efficient Transportation System Seen as Crucial to Economic Progress

by Bob Edwards

Taking good care of the existing transportation system, making strategic, common-sense expansions if more money becomes available and developing a more integrated network that covers all modes of transportation emerged as themes in Tuesday's "On the Move" listening session in Joplin.

The nearly two-hour meeting, one of 16 that MoDOT is conducting across Missouri to help develop a new long-range transportation plan, drew a diverse group of 27 participants from Joplin area business, education, community groups and local government.

The next listening session is today (Thursday) in Springfield -- 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Springfield-Branson National Airport.

Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce President Rob O'Brian, co-host of the Joplin session, set the scene for the afternoon with his opening remarks. He said the challenge facing Missourians is how to adequately fund transportation to continue to provide an effective, efficient and safe system.

Small-group discussions followed. Participants were asked to consider two scenarios -- one that keeps funding at existing levels and a theoretical one that adds \$600 million more a year to the funds available.

Among observations:

- "If we don't maintain what we have, we're going to continue (to be) behind the 8-ball," Joplin Regional Airport Director Steve Stockam said, hitting on the need for a solid base.
- "I'm a big believer in if you're not growing, you're dying," Developer Jimmer Pinjuv said. He and others said an improved transportation system is needed to keep the state from falling behind other states and missing out on new business that would look to other states with less congestion and better connectivity.
- Roadway safety was another concern of participants, and safety improvements do not need to be extremely expensive, they said. More accommodations for pedestrians and cyclists



At the Joplin Listening Session, William Kean of the Joplin NAACP, above, and Mark Nelson of Community National Bank in Monett submit ideas for transportation improvements needed in the region. (Photos by Bob Edwards)

and improved transit were cited as needs in urban areas. More shoulders on two-lane roads were mentioned as needs in rural areas.

- Aviation and rail service were noted as crucial elements in a healthy transportation system.
- It is important to continue partnerships between MoDOT and local communities, several people said.

"Great Turnout. Really insightful input," District Engineer Becky Baltz said afterwards.

"Everybody understands we're all in this together, and we have to work together to improve our infrastructure," she said.

Southwest District Workers Help KC Dig Out from Heavy Snows

by Angela Eden

Southwest District Maintenance crews spent three to five days at the end of February helping the Kansas City district dig out from underneath two heavy snows.

Southwest's 28 volunteers plowed and removed snow built up against bridge walls and guardrail along several multi-laned highways, including I-435, I-70 and I-35. They also opened up rural two-lane roads.

Joplin Senior Maintenance Worker Richard Starchman and Ozark Maintenance Crew Leader Tim Pogue each worked in the Kansas City area for five days and had eye-opening experiences.

"There's just a lot more traffic," Starchman said.

But there was help.

"We had a police escort everywhere we went," Pogue said, noting that officers stayed with each crew to keep traffic away from the plows and loaders working to remove built-up snow off bridges and interchange ramps.

Starchman and Pogue worked 12-to-14-hour days out of the Stadium Maintenance Facility near the I-435 and I-70 interchange. They said the Kansas City District made them feel welcome and provided them with anything they needed to get the job done, including plenty of food.

Going to help out another district in its time of need was the right thing to do, Starchman said.

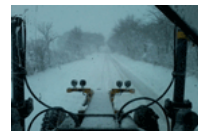
"I remember how everyone helped us (after the Joplin tornado in May 2011)," he said. "It was my turn to help them out."

Pogue described the all-out effort in Kansas City as a "phenomenal experience" that he won't forget.

"It was awesome."



Crews clear snow from a bridge on one of the Kansas City area freeways. (Photo by Richard Starchman)



A grader plows open a two-lane road near Smithville Lake north of Kansas City. (Photo by Gary Sanders)

For more info

Bob Edwards
Customer Relations Manager
Southwest District
417.895.7713
Robert.Edwards@modot.mo.gov

3025 E. Kearney
P.O. Box 868
Springfield, MO 65801

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

March 7, 2013

Southeast
District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

Southeast

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

SE Crews Join in the Winter Weather Fight

During winter weather events, assisting other districts during the fight can be necessary. The latest storms provided that opportunity to nearly 60 Southeast District employees. Those employees volunteered to assist the Northwest, Northeast, Kansas City and Central Districts during their recent bouts of winter weather.

"Our crews are truly one team," said District Maintenance Engineer Jeff Johnson. "Everyone was willing to step in and help out with whatever was needed."

Johnson explained the Southeast District crews assisted by prepping and hauling equipment to the districts in need, in addition to staying overnight to help plow snow in many of the state's northern regions.

"Assisting the other districts was a great experience," said Senior Maintenance Worker Maurice Farr. "The crew members made me feel at home and had confidence in me to assist."

Farr added that it was also a good learning experience to see how other regions fight winter weather.

"I was glad to be a part of it, and I would do it again without hesitation," he said.

Thanks to the following employees for demonstrating outstanding teamwork:

James Barnes, Maintenance Crew Leader-Bridge Maintenance
Ed Benfield, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Marble Hill
Mike Berger, Senior Maintenance Worker-Qulin
Howard Blake, Maintenance Crew Leader-Park Hills
Steve Bradford, Senior Maintenance Worker-Willow Springs
Tom Brickhaus, Maintenance Crew Leader-Perryville
Lee Bright, Senior Maintenance Worker-Sikeston
Tom Brown, Maintenance Crew Leader-Silva
Greg Buckner, Senior Maintenance Worker-Winona
John Caldwell, Senior Maintenance Worker-Winona
Harley Chapman, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Marble Hill
Don Clark, Maintenance Crew Leader-Charleston
Norman Clark, Senior Maintenance Worker-Fredericktown
Serita Clark, Senior Maintenance Worker-Mountain Grove
Brad Cook, Maintenance Crew Leader-Patton
Alvin Cookson, Senior Maintenance Worker-Puxico
Don Cooper, Maintenance Crew Leader-West Plains
David Coward, Senior Maintenance Worker-Doniphan
Greg Cotter, Senior Maintenance Worker-West Plains
Lloyd Crewse, Maintenance Crew Leader-Houston
Shannon Cureton, Senior Maintenance Worker-Jackson
Rick Davis, Senior Maintenance Worker-Ellisnore
Martin "Wayne" Elliott, Senior Maintenance Worker-Malden
Ada Farr, Senior Maintenance Worker-Kewanee
Maurice Farr, Senior Maintenance Worker-Malden
Cory Gray, Senior Maintenance Worker-Hayti
Gary Guess, Senior Maintenance Worker-Qulin
Mark Hager, Senior Maintenance Worker-Perryville
Rick Hamm, Senior Maintenance Worker-Jackson
Jason Harris, Senior Maintenance Worker-Cape Girardeau

Kevin Johns, Senior Maintenance Worker-Dexter
Brad Johnson, Maintenance Worker-Patton
Monnie Jones, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Advance
Gary King, Maintenance Crew Leader-Fredericktown
Brian Long, Maintenance Crew Leader-Bellevue
Brian Masson, Maintenance Crew Leader-Park Hills
Corey Menz, Senior Maintenance Worker-Sikeston
Brandon Miller, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Bridge Maintenance
David Patrick, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Hayti
Corey Pettus, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-St. Genevieve
Richard Powell, Senior Maintenance Worker-Kewanee
Ron Rehkop, Senior Maintenance Worker-Fredericktown
Mark Reynolds, Senior Maintenance Worker-Bellevue
Jeff Riegle, Senior Maintenance Worker-Mountain Grove
Charlie Rose, Senior Maintenance Worker-Silva
Paul Roth, Maintenance Crew Leader-St. Genevieve
Terry Sanders, Maintenance Crew Leader-Perryville
Tony Scholl, Senior Maintenance Worker-Perryville
Brady Shepherd, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Houston
Kim Smith, Maintenance Crew Leader-Charleston
Jerod Street, Maintenance Crew Leader-Van Buren
Don Weaver, Maintenance Crew Leader-Willow Springs
Eric Wilson, Senior Maintenance Worker-Cape Girardeau
Ron Wilson, Maintenance Crew Leader-Dexter
Kyle Winch, Intermediate Maintenance Worker-Park Hills
Donnie Young, Senior Maintenance Worker-Doniphan



Brian Long, Maintenance Crew Leader at the SE District's Bellevue facility, assists the Paris maintenance crew.